TRANSPORTATION

10-0996

MOTION

The City of Los Angeles currently has nine taxi cab franchises that serve the residents of Los Angeles. A careful and thoughtful examination of the current taxi franchise operators demonstrates that each of the franchises is performing beyond the rigorous standards set by this Council and the Department of Transportation. These franchises are delivering services to the public that rank among the best in the nation, even traditionally hard to serve areas like South and East Los Angeles are receiving outstanding service.

Nationwide, municipalities are beginning to move towards greening their taxi fleets. From San Francisco to Long Beach and taxi companies have worked together to provide green taxi cabs to the community while working to lower emissions in their cities. Major metropolitan cities such as New York and Seattle have had successful green taxi cab programs in their cities for over two years. The City of Los Angeles currently does not require that a certain percentage the taxi cab fleet be "green".

Currently, the taxi franchise contracts for the City of Los Angeles are scheduled to expire at the end of December 2010. Due to the current economic climate and limited city resources, it may not be fiscally prudent for the City to solicit Request for Proposals. As such, the City should take this opportunity to green the taxi fleets that serve the residents of the Los Angeles. Doing so would make our communities healthier and place Los Angeles amongst the other leading cities that have already done so.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the City Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst Office with the assistance of any other pertinent city department to report back on the feasibility of extending the contracts for five years with the current taxi franchise operators with the requirement that 80% of their fleet be comprised of fuel efficient vehicles phased in over the five year period.

I FURTHER MOVE, that the CLA report back to the Transportation Committee and Energy and Environment Committee within 30 days.

PRESENTED BY

TONY CARDENAS Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY